The AGNT Project Report—Q1 2013

As a licensee or friend of AGNT or ANLEX, we would like to update you once a quarter about our continuing work to enhance and perfect these databases and about our plans for the future.

The Project. *The AGNT Project Report—Q3 2008* introduced the team, outlined ongoing tasks, and discussed potential tasks.

AGNT Project Update—ERGs, PERGs, and More!

Timothy Friberg, PhD

The past six months have been an unusually productive time for the AGNT Project. In this *AGNT Project Report*, I will share briefly about the various enhancements we are working on.
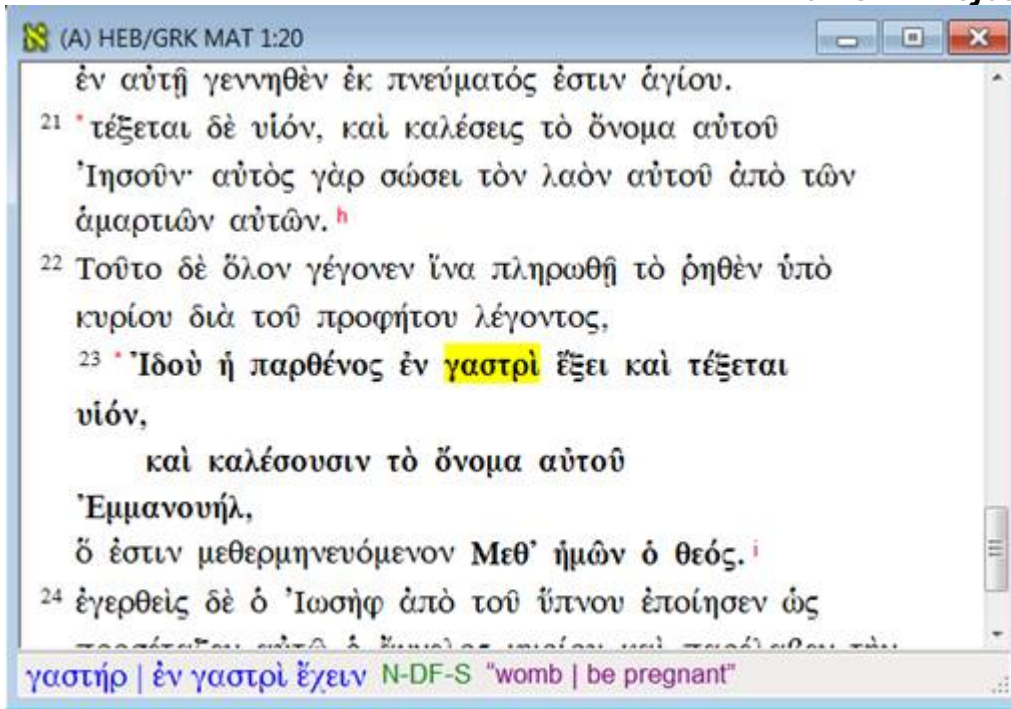
● Our most important milestone is the April 1 beta release of an upgraded AGNT and BYZAGNT. This enhancement contains our new ERGs (English Reference Glosses) and PERGs (Phrasal English Reference Glosses). The concept of ERGs took shape in the 1990s after ideological resistance on our part. It was developed through the first decade of this new millennium in a slow but deliberate manner. Ray Gordon of SIL then came on board to lead it to production. During his work, PERGs also were added.

This beta version is going to appear in the UBS Paratext program (7.4, scheduled for a May 1 release) for Bible translators, which was featured in the last *AGNT Project Report*. After field testing, we expect to make it available to our vendors, perhaps in about a year. Special thanks to Mark Nodine, who has provided untiring programming support to the birthing of the beta version.

The concept of ERGs was a sensitive one for us, since we didn't want to provide users with something that would give them an unfounded confidence regarding their ability to work with Greek. A summary of the resulting ERG enhancement—one that addressed all our hesitations—was presented in our Q1 2012 *AGNT Project Report*.

Reinier de Blois, ICAP Coordinator, United Bible Societies, kindly provided the screenshots below, which illustrate how Paratext (now a joint effort with SIL) displays ERGs and PERGs.

Immediately below is the Paratext presentation of the Greek text with AGNT helps unobtrusively appearing on the status bar at the bottom of the screen. (It would be wonderful if all modern users read Greek with only an occasional reference away from the text!) The status bar information for those who need it includes Greek reflex and Greek phrase (both in blue), AGNT tag (green), and ERG and PERG (both in purple).

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(A) HEB/GRK MAT 1:20
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ἐν αὐτῇ γεννηθὲν ἐκ πνεύματός ἐστιν ἁγίου.

²¹ *τέξεται δὲ υἱόν, καὶ καλέσεις τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ
Ἰησοῦν· αὐτὸς γὰρ σώσει τὸν λαὸν αὐτοῦ ἀπὸ τῶν
ἁμαρτιῶν αὐτῶν. ʰ

²² Τοῦτο δὲ ὅλον γέγονεν ἵνα πληρωθῇ τὸ ῥηθὲν ὑπὸ
κυρίου διὰ τοῦ προφήτου λέγοντος,

²³ *Ἰδοὺ ἡ παρθένος ἐν **γαστρὶ** ἕξει καὶ τέξεται
υἱόν,
            καὶ καλέσουσιν τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ
Ἐμμανουήλ,
ὅ ἐστιν μεθερμηνευόμενον Μεθ᾽ ἡμῶν ὁ θεός. ⁱ

²⁴ ἐγερθεὶς δὲ ὁ Ἰωσὴφ ἀπὸ τοῦ ὕπνου ἐποίησεν ὡς

γαστήρ | ἐν γαστρὶ ἔχειν   N-DF-S   "womb | be pregnant"

For those wishing to work interlinearly, Paratext gives the option seen in the screenshot below. Immediately beneath the Greek text are the corresponding Greek lemmas (blue typeface; the lemmas are as found in ANLEX). Greek phrases are underlined. Immediately beneath that in green are the AGNT parsing tags. The next lower line in purple consists of ERGs, one for each Greek reflex. Here, as for Greek lemmas, ERGs that happen to function as part of unitized Greek phrases are underlined. When an underlined lemma is hovered over, the Greek phrase appears in Paratext's "tooltip"; when the cursor is instead hovered over the ERG, then the relevant PERG appears in the tooltip.

καὶ τοῖς   καθημένοις   ἐν   χώρᾳ   καὶ   σκιᾷ
καί   ὁ   κάθημαι   ἐν   χώρᾳ   καί   σκιά
CC   DDMP   VPPNDM-P   PD   N-DF-S   CC   N-DF-S
and   the   stay   in   region   and   shadow

in dread of dying

θανάτου
θάνατος
N-GM-S
death

● We also are engaged in a project to provide annotation to the AGNT tags (potentially, as needed, to Greek reflexes, Greek lemmas, ERGs, and PERGs as well). Right now we are keying individual AGNT tags to their discussion in the printed Appendix to AGNT. We anticipate that our vendors will allow this information to be displayed by hovering the cursor over tags, thus giving users the option of displaying the annotations. Sam Pflederer is working on this painstaking task, and at the same time he is revising our Appendix and making it much more readable.

Eventually, we hope that the annotation task also will include annotative discussion of specific grammatical problems, as distilled from the thousands of pages of correspondence in our project archives, the lion's share of that coming from John Werner throughout his nearly forty-year association with our project.

● Analysis of AGNT conjunction tags is being thoroughly reviewed, initially by John Werner and currently by Dan Hoopert. This project will update our understanding of interpropostitional relations and simplify our expression of the same. As always, our tasks are driven by what might most help the AGNT user—student, pastor, translator.

● Carl Conrad continues working to provide an alternate understanding of the voice of verbs. This task was first presented in *AGNT Project Report* Q1 2011. When Carl's project is completed, we hope to provide a parallel AGNT module to give it expression. As I told Carl, if his analysis proves right and pedagogically compelling, we are happy to retire our current analysis of voice in favor of his.

● John Lewis is working to conform Jan Hoogland's intrinsic meanings—from his Transformational Greek New Testament project—to our AGNT format as a new AGNT help module.

● Since our BYZAGNT was released in beta form, we have attended to various shortcomings in that module. We are happy to announce an upgrade for BYZAGNT tags from beta to official. Of course, its recent fitting with ERGs and PERGs will continue in a test condition for the foreseeable future.

A number of other projects continue as well, as we have time and volunteers to help. If you know of Greek scholars who might wish to volunteer their time and expertise on a unit task of AGNT, please put us in touch with them.

Finally (as noted in past issues of the *AGNT Project Report*), any and all back issues are available from John Hughes. Indeed, it you think of someone who might profit from a subscription of our newsletter, please forward that information to us.

As always, we remain open to developing AGNT and ANLEX in ways that are most useful to the needs of students and readers of God's Word.

Thank you for your continued support of *The AGNT Project*, for faithfully marketing the AGNT and ANLEX databases, and for making these state-of-the-art tools for studying the Greek New Testament available to students, scholars, pastors, translators, and laymen worldwide.

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